

Serial No. 10/816,196
Attorney Ref. No. 1091-007/JRD
Reply to Office Action Dated November 2, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A slide fastener for opening and closing a chamber of an article, said slide fastener comprising:

an elongate pair of engaging portions positioned adjacent to an opening in the article;

a slide operably secured to said pair of engaging portions such that said slide joins said engaging portions together when moved in a first direction and disengages said engaging portions when moved in a opposite second direction; and,

an elongate flexible pull having a first end and a second end, said pull attached to said article toward said first end, said slide ~~operably~~ rigidly secured to said pull toward said second end defining a handle portion between said slide and said first end and a tab portion from said slide to said second end, wherein said tab portion is shorter than said handle portion.

2. (canceled.)

3. (Previously presented) The slide fastener of claim 1, further including a fastener operably secured to said tab portion thereby allowing said tab portion to be detachably secured to said article.

4. (original) The slide fastener of claim 3, wherein said slide fastener has an opened position and a closed position, and said tab portion is detachably secured to said article when said slide fastener is in said closed position.

5. (original) The slide fastener of claim 4, wherein said pull defines a storage device when said tab portion is detachably secured to said article wherein objects positioned between said engaging portions and said handle portion are operably secured to said article.

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6. (original) The slide fastener of claim 1, wherein said pull is a substantially planar member.
7. (Currently amended) The slide fastener of claim 6, wherein:
said elongate pair of engaging portions ~~have~~has a first width;
said substantially planar member has a second width; and,
said second width is at least as wide as said first width thereby allowing said pull to cover said elongate pair of engaging portions.
8. (original) The slide fastener of claim 1, wherein said pull is a monolithic elongate strip of material.
9. (original) The slide fastener of claim 1, wherein said slide fastener has a base end and an opposite end, and said pull is attached to said article substantially near said base end.
10. (canceled)
11. (original) The slide fastener of claim 1, wherein:
a substantially planar surface defines where said pull is attached to said article;
and,
surface indicia is applied to an exterior surface of said substantially planar surface.
12. (original) The slide fastener of claim 1, wherein said slide fastener is a zipper.
13. (original) The slide fastener of claim 1, wherein said slide fastener and said pull are aligned substantially vertically on said article.
14. (original) The slide fastener of claim 1, wherein said article is an article of luggage.
15. (original) The slide fastener of claim 14, wherein said article of luggage is a backpack having shoulder straps.

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16. (original) The slide fastener of claim 1, wherein said article is an article of apparel.

17. (original) The slide fastener of claim 16, wherein said article of apparel is outerwear.

18. (original) The slide fastener of claim 16, wherein said article of apparel has a main opening, and said slide fastener and pull are operably secured to said main opening.

19. (original) The slide fastener of claim 16, wherein said chamber is a pocket attached to said article of apparel, and said slide fastener and pull are operably secured to said pocket.

20. (original) The slide fastener of claim 1, wherein said article is an article of footwear.

21. (original) The slide fastener of claim 20, wherein said article of footwear has an upper and said slide fastener and pull are operably secured to an opening in said upper.

22. (Previously presented) A slide fastener for opening and closing a chamber of an article of footwear having an upper, said slide fastener comprising:

an elongate pair of engaging portions positioned adjacent to an opening in the article of footwear;

a slide operably secured to said pair of engaging portions such that said slide joins said engaging portions together when moved in a first direction and disengages said engaging portions when moved in a opposite second direction;

an elongate pull having a first end and a second end, said pull attached to said article of footwear toward said first end, said slide operably secured to said pull toward said second end defining a handle portion between said slide and said first end; and, said pull is formed from a toe portion of said upper.

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23. (Currently amended) An article of luggage comprising:
a container defining a chamber therein;
a slide fastener for opening and closing the chamber, said slide fastener having an open position and a closed position;
a slide engaging the slide fastener to operably transition between said open position and said closed position; and,
an elongate flexible pull having a first end and a second end, said pull attached to said article toward said first end, said slide ~~operably~~ rigidly secured to said pull toward said second end defining a handle portion between said slide and said first end and a tab portion from said slide to said second end, wherein said tab portion is shorter than said handle portion.

24. (Currently amended) The article of luggage of claim 23, wherein:
~~said slide is spaced apart from said second end defining a tab portion from said slide to said second end; and,~~
said tab portion is detachably secured to said article with a fastener when said slide fastener is in said closed position.

25. (original) The article of luggage of claim 24, wherein said pull defines a storage device when said tab portion is detachably secured to said article wherein objects positioned between said engaging portions and said handle portion are operably secured to said article.

26. (Currently amended) An article of luggage comprising:
a container defining a chamber therein;
a slide fastener for opening and closing the chamber, said slide fastener having an open position and a closed position;
a slide engaging the slide fastener to operably transition between said open position and said closed position; and,
an elongate flexible pull having a first end and a second end, said pull attached to said article toward said first end, said slide ~~operably~~ rigidly secured to said pull toward said second end defining a handle portion between said slide and said first end;
wherein said pull is a substantially planar member having a first width, and said slide fastener has a second width, said first width is larger than said second width such

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that said pull covers said slide fastener when said slide fastener is in said closed position.

27. (original) The article of luggage of claim 23, wherein said pull is a monolithic elongate strip of material aligned substantially vertically on said luggage.

28. (Currently amended) An article of apparel comprising:
a wearable covering having an opening therein;
a slide fastener operably secured adjacent to said opening, said slide fastener having an open position and a closed position;
a slide engaging the slide fastener to operably transition between said open position and said closed position; and,

an elongate flexible pull having a first end and a second end, said pull attached to said article of apparel toward said first end, said slide ~~operably rigidly~~ secured to said pull toward said second end defining a handle portion between said slide and said first end and a tab portion from said slide to said second end, wherein said tab portion is shorter than said handle portion.

29. (Currently amended) The article of apparel of claim 28, wherein:
~~—said slide is spaced apart from said second end defining a tab portion from said slide to said second end, and,~~

said tab portion is detachably secured to said article with a fastener when said slide fastener is in said closed position.

30. (original) The article of apparel of claim 28, wherein said opening is a main opening of said article of apparel and said slide fastener is operably secured adjacent to said main opening whereby the main opening may be opened or closed with said slide fastener.

31. (original) The article of apparel of claim 28, wherein said wearable covering defines an article of outerwear.

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32. (original) The article of apparel of claim 28, wherein said wearable covering includes a pocket therein, and said slide fastener and pull are operably secured to said pocket.

33. (Currently amended) An article of footwear comprising:
a wearable foot covering having an opening therein;
a slide fastener operably secured adjacent to said opening, said slide fastener having an open position defining a base end of said slide fastener and a closed position defining an opposite end of said slide fastener;
a slide engaging the slide fastener to operably transition between said open position and said closed position; and,
an elongate flexible pull having a first end and a second end, said pull attached to said article of footwear toward said first end and positioned substantially adjacent to said base end of said slide fastener, said slide ~~operably rigidly~~ secured to said pull toward said second end defining a handle portion between said slide and said first end.

34. (Previously presented) The article of footwear of claim 33, wherein:
said slide is spaced apart from said second end defining a tab portion from said slide to said second end, and,
said tab portion is detachably secured to said article with a fastener when said slide fastener is in said closed position.

35. (original) The article of footwear of claim 33, wherein said opening is in an upper of the article of footwear and said slide fastener is operably secured adjacent to said opening.

36. (Currently amended) The article of ~~apparel of claim 32~~footwear of claim 33, wherein said article of footwear has an upper and said pull extends from a toe portion of said upper.

37. (Currently amended) A pull for a slide fastener attached to an article, the slide fastener having a base end, an opposite end, an elongate pair of engaging portions, and a slide for operably engaging the pair of elongate engaging portions, said pull comprising:

an elongate strip of substantially planar material attached to the article toward a

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~~first-said base end;~~

the slide operably secured to said pull toward said ~~second-opposite end~~, thereby defining a handle portion of the elongate strip of material between said pull and said ~~first-base end~~.

38. (Currently amended) A pull for a slide fastener attached to an article, the slide fastener having an open position and a closed position, a base end, an opposite end, an elongate pair of engaging portions defining a first width, and a slide for operably engaging the pair of elongate engaging portions, said pull comprising:

an elongate strip of material attached to the article toward a ~~first said base end~~;

the slide operably secured to said pull toward said ~~second-opposite end~~, thereby defining a handle portion of the elongate strip of material between said pull and said ~~first-base end~~; and,

wherein the pull has a second width at least as wide as said first width.

39. (Currently amended) The pull for a slide fastener of claim 37~~38~~, wherein said elongate strip of material is substantially planar defining an interior surface and an exterior surface, said exterior surface having surface ornamentation thereon.

40. (original) The pull for a slide fastener of claim 37, wherein the slide fastener has an open position and a closed position, and said handle portion forms a loop of material when the slide fastener is in said open position.

41. – 45 (canceled)